

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

MAYOR BOB KISS

NUMBER 38

AUGUST 6, 2010

CHURCH STREET HONORED BY NATIONAL HISTORIC REGISTER

The City was notified on July 29 that Church Street has been added to the National Historic Register.

This designation – in the works since 1981 – recognizes the unique and important history of Church Street as the commercial, cultural and architectural center of Burlington. Recognition by the National Historic Register is significant and an indication of how special Church Street is. The City's successful application to the Register was the result of dedicated work by

the City's Planning and Zoning Department—congratulations to all!



Church Street in 1909

PEACE MEMORIAL DAY—AUGUST 6

The City of Hiroshima has declared August 6 as “Peace Memorial Day” in



Memorial Cenotaph in Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park

recognition of the day that the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Hiroshima holds a Peace Memorial Ceremony every year on August 6 in its Peace Memorial Park.

Burlington is one of more than 2000 cities across the world that are members of Cities for Peace

(www.citiesforpeace.org/). Cities for Peace is a project of the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C. working with local communi-

ties to advocate for non-military solutions to conflicts.

World Peace Day is as relevant today as ever. While Burlington can't be there to participate in the ceremony, it's an opportunity to reflect on our hopes and efforts to permanently end all conflicts. In Burlington there are several events to mark the day, ending at 7:30 pm this evening in City Hall Park.

FROM MAYOR KISS



Burlington History

Over the last several weeks elements of Burlington's history have received prestigious recognition. The front of this newsletter describes the designation of Church Street by the National Parks Service to the National Historic Register. This unique acknowledgment of Church Street's history is as much a recognition of the architecture downtown as it is the people and life of Burlington. Similarly, Burlington was

recently awarded a grant from the National Parks Service to study its history from the war of 1812.

Preserving and enhancing our understanding of Burlington's history has a tremendous value, both culturally and economically. As we move forward it's important not to lose sight of this valuable aspect of the City.

Burlington Telecom

The City continues to work to address the challenges faced by Burlington Telecom. The City's financial advisors, Dorman and Fawcett, are engaged in negotiations with CitiCapital regarding our lease-purchase

agreement. CitiCapital has agreed to a forbearance of the August lease payment (until Sept 30) while negotiations move forward.

It remains clear that Burlington Telecom is a valuable and necessary part of Burlington's plan for enhancing economic development, environmental sustainability, and meeting the needs of residents and businesses, now and into the future. It is a great service that continues to be available for the people of Burlington. We need to work together to preserve and enhance this important asset and keep it moving forward.

Enjoy Burlington!

There's still plenty to en-

joy this summer in Burlington. The *Festival of Fools* (burlingtoncityarts.com/) is going on this weekend, with free events and performances for all ages; the *DragonBoat Festival* (ridethedragon.org) is on the Waterfront Aug 8; and the *Lake Champlain Maritime Festival* (lcmfestival.com) is coming to Waterfront Park August 12-15.

I hope you can make it downtown and to the waterfront for these great events!

With best regards,

Bob Kiss, Mayor

Contact Mayor Kiss at: mayor@ci.burlington.vt.us or www.ci.burlington.vt.us/mayor

SMALLEY PARK TO BE CITY'S FIRST 'NATURAL PLAYGROUND'

The Burlington Parks and Recreation Department will begin construction August 9 at Smalley Park on the City's first "natural playground" within its parks system. A natural playground is an area where children can play with natural elements such as sand, water, wood, and plants. Natural playgrounds will enhance Burlington's recreational

options and educational opportunities for families and children.

MAYOR KISS TO MAKE ANOTHER ROUND OF BUSINESS CALLS

Mayor Kiss is planning another round of visits to local businesses on September 30. This follows his visits to several old north end businesses in July. The "Business Calls" program through CEDO brings together Mayor Kiss and local businesses on a regular basis.



Mayor Kiss with Mawuhi African Market owners Charles Narh (l) and Pat Bannerman